

Hi. This is Sally Oxenhandler with your MoDOT Minute.

The Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission has approved a \$5.8 billion transportation construction package for the next five years. The program includes 662 highway and bridge projects and funding for other transportation modes and local transportation programs. The construction program on average creates more than 9,000 new jobs each year and adds almost \$900 million to Missouri's economy.

Amtrak will get \$5 million in state funding to increase track capacity between St. Louis and Kansas City. The twice-daily round trips have been plagued by lengthy delays due to heavy freight traffic from Union Pacific Railroad, which also uses the tracks. The money will be used for new track extensions that will reduce bottlenecks.

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